

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

Claims 1-23 (canceled)

Claim 24 (currently amended): A host computer that communicates with a plurality of printing apparatuses via a network, said host computer comprising:

a reference unit adapted to refer to font registration information that includes information specifying [[a]] at least one font registered in each of the plurality of printing apparatuses;

a font registration unit adapted to download font data to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration; [[and]]

a management unit adapted to retain the font registration information ~~and manage registration information irrespective of a printing process~~, indicating the font data downloaded to each of the plurality of printing apparatuses by said font registration unit; ~~wherein the font registration information is used when the font data is downloaded to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses by said font registration unit; and~~

an instruction unit adapted to issue a delete instruction to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses to delete the font data that corresponds to one of the fonts discriminated based on the font registration information referred to by said reference unit.

Claim 25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (previously presented): A host computer according to Claim 24, further comprising a specifying unit adapted to specify information on a font to be downloaded, based on the font registration information referred to by said reference unit.

Claim 27 (previously presented): A host computer according to Claim 24, wherein said font registration unit collectively downloads the font data to the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration.

Claim 28 (canceled)

Claim 29 (currently amended): A host computer according to Claim 26, wherein the font registration information indicates a printer name and a font name in combination for each of the plurality of printing apparatuses,

wherein said specifying unit specifies information on a font to be downloaded to each printing apparatus, based on the font registration information, and wherein said font registration unit collectively downloads the font data to the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration, in response to the specification of the information by said specifying unit.

Claim 30 (previously presented): A host computer according to Claim 24, wherein the font registration information includes information that indicates a printer name and a font name.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A host computer that communicates with a management apparatus, which manages fonts, and ~~[[with]]~~ a plurality of printing apparatuses via a network, said host computer comprising:

a reference unit adapted to refer to font registration information that includes information specifying ~~[[a]]~~ at least one font registered in each of the plurality of printing apparatuses, wherein the font registration information is retained in the management apparatus;

a font registration unit adapted to download font data to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration; ~~[[and]]~~

a transmission unit adapted to transmit registration information, indicating the font data downloaded to each of the plurality of printing apparatuses by said font registration unit, to the management apparatus so as to update the font registration information retained, irrespective of a printing process, in the management apparatus; ~~based on the registration information, wherein the font registration information is used when the font data is downloaded to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses by said font registration unit; and~~

an instruction unit adapted to issue a delete instruction to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses to delete the font data that corresponds to one of the fonts discriminated based on the font registration information referred to by said reference unit.

Claim 32 (currently amended): A print system comprising a plurality of printing apparatuses and a host computer that communicates via a network, in which

system font data from said host computer is registered in said printing apparatuses, and said printing apparatuses perform a printing process using the registered font data,

wherein said host computer comprises:

a reference unit adapted to refer to font registration information that includes information specifying ~~[[a]]~~ at least one font registered in each of said plurality of printing apparatuses;

a font registration unit adapted to download the font data to any one of said plurality of printing apparatuses for registration; ~~[[and]]~~

a management unit adapted to retain the font registration information ~~and manage registration information~~ irrespective of the printing process, indicating the font data downloaded to each of the plurality of printing apparatuses by the font registration unit, ~~wherein the font registration information is used when the font data is downloaded to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses by the font registration unit; and~~

an instruction unit adapted to issue a delete instruction to any one of said plurality of printing apparatuses to delete the font data that corresponds to one of the fonts discriminated based on the font registration information referred to by the reference unit.

Claim 33 (currently amended): A communication method of a host computer that communicates with a plurality of printing apparatuses via a network, said method comprising:

a font registration step of downloading font data to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration; [[and]]

a management step, performed by a management unit, of retaining the font registration information ~~and managing registration information~~ irrespective of a printing process, indicating the font data downloaded to each of the plurality of printing apparatuses in said font registration step, ~~wherein the font registration information is used when the font data is downloaded to any one of the printing apparatuses in said font registration step;~~
and

an instruction step of issuing a delete instruction to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses to delete the font data that corresponds to one of the fonts discriminated based on the font registration information referred to in said reference step.

Claim 34 (canceled)

Claim 35 (previously amended): A method according to Claim 33, further comprising a specification step of specifying information on a font to be downloaded, based on the font registration information referred to in said reference step.

Claim 36 (previously presented): A method according to Claim 33, wherein, in said font registration step, the font data is collectively downloaded to the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration.

Claim 37 (canceled)

Claim 38 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 35,
wherein the font registration information indicates a printer name and a font name in combination for each of the plurality of printing apparatuses,

wherein said specification step includes specifying information on a font to be downloaded to each printing apparatus, based on the font registration information, and

wherein said font registration step includes collectively downloading the font data to the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration, in response to the specification of the information in said specification step.

Claim 39 (previously presented): A method according to Claim 33, wherein the font registration information includes information that indicates a printer name and a font name.

Claim 40 (currently amended): A communication method of a host computer that communicates with a management apparatus, which manages fonts, and [[with] a plurality of printing apparatuses via a network, said method comprising:

a reference step of referring to font registration information that includes information specifying [[a]] at least one font registered in each of the plurality of printing apparatuses, wherein the font registration information is retained in the management apparatus;

a font registration step of downloading font data to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration; [[and]]

a transmission step of transmitting registration information, indicating the font data downloaded to each of the plurality of printing apparatuses in said font registration step, to the management apparatus so as to update the font registration information retained, irrespective of a printing process, in the management apparatus; ~~based on the registration information, wherein the font registration information is used when the font data is downloaded to the predetermined apparatus in said font registration step; and~~

an instruction step of issuing a delete instruction to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses to delete the font data that corresponds to one of the fonts discriminated based on the font registration information referred to in said reference step.

Claim 41 (currently amended): A communication method of a print system that includes a plurality of printing apparatus apparatuses and a host computer that communicates[[,]] via a network, in which system font data from the host computer is registered in the printing apparatuses, and the printing ~~apparatus, which performs~~ apparatuses perform a printing process using the registered font data, said method comprising, at the host computer:

a reference step of referring to font registration information that includes information specifying [[a]] at least one font registered in each of the plurality of printing apparatuses;

a font registration step of downloading the font data to the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration; [[and]]

a management step of retaining the font registration information ~~and managing registration information irrespective of the printing process~~, indicating the font data downloaded to each of the plurality of printing apparatuses in said font registration step, ~~wherein the font registration information is used when the font data is downloaded to any one of the printing apparatuses in said font registration step; and~~

an instruction step of issuing a delete instruction to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses to delete the font data that corresponds to one of the fonts discriminated based on the font registration information referred to in said reference step.

Claims 42-50 (canceled)

Claim 51 (currently amended): A computer program product embodying a program for implementing a communication method of a host computer that communicates with a plurality of printing apparatuses via a network, ~~wherein the method~~ said computer program comprises:

code for a reference step of referring to font registration information that includes information specifying ~~[[a]]~~ at least one font registered in each of the plurality of printing apparatuses;

code for a font registration step of downloading font data to the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration; ~~[[and]]~~

code for a management step, performed by a management unit, of ~~[[retain]] retaining~~ the font registration information ~~and manage registration information irrespective of a printing process~~, indicating the font data downloaded to each of the plurality of

printing apparatuses ~~[[in]]~~ by said code for a font registration step, ~~wherein the font registration information is used when the font data is downloaded to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses in said font registration step; and~~

code for an instruction step of issuing a delete instruction to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses to delete the font data that corresponds to one of the fonts discriminated based on the font registration information referred to by said code for a reference step.

Claim 52 (canceled)

Claim 53 (currently amended): A computer program product according to Claim 51, wherein ~~the method~~ said computer program further comprises code for a specification step of specifying information on a font to be downloaded, based on the font registration information referred to ~~[[in]]~~ by said code for a reference step.

Claim 54 (currently amended): A computer program product according to Claim 51, wherein ~~[[, in]]~~ said code for a font registration step, ~~the font data is collectively downloaded~~ downloads the font data to the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration.

Claim 55 (canceled)

Claim 56 (currently amended): A computer program product according to Claim 53,

wherein the font registration information indicates a printer name and a font name in combination for each of the plurality of printing apparatuses,

wherein said code for a specification step includes ~~pspecifying~~ specifying information on a font to be downloaded to each printing apparatus, based on the font registration information, and

wherein said code for a font registration step includes collectively downloading the font data to the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration, in response to the specification of the information ~~[[in]]~~ by said code for a specification step.

Claim 57 (previously presented): A computer program product according to Claim 51, wherein the font registration information includes information that indicates a printer name and a font name.

Claim 58 (currently amended): A computer program product embodying a program for implementing a communication method of a host computer that communicates with a management apparatus, which manages fonts, and ~~[[with]]~~ a plurality of printing apparatuses via a network, ~~wherein the method~~ said computer program comprises:

code for a reference step of referring to font registration information that includes information specifying ~~[[a]]~~ at least one font registered in each of the plurality of printing apparatuses, wherein the font registration information is retained in the management apparatus;

code for a font registration step of downloading font data to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration; [[and]]

code for a transmission step of transmitting registration information, indicating the font data downloaded to each of the plurality of printing apparatuses [[in]] by said code for a font registration step, to the management apparatus so as to update the font registration information retained, irrespective of a printing process, in the management apparatus, based on the registration information, wherein the font registration information is used when the font data is downloaded to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses in said font registration step; and

code for an instruction step of issuing a delete instruction to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses to delete the font data that corresponds to one of the fonts discriminated based on the font registration information referred to by said code for a reference step.

Claim 59 (currently amended): A computer program product embodying a program for implementing a communication method of a print system that includes a plurality of printing apparatus apparatuses and a host computer that communicates[[,]] via a network,[[,]] in which system font data from the host computer is registered in the printing apparatuses, and the printing apparatus, which performs apparatuses perform a printing process using the registered font data, ~~wherein the method~~ said computer program comprises, at the host computer:

code for a reference step of referring to font registration information that includes information specifying ~~[[a]]~~ at least one font registered in each of the plurality of printing apparatuses;

code for a font registration step of downloading the font data to the plurality of printing apparatuses for registration; ~~[[and]]~~

a management step of retaining the font registration information ~~and managing registration information irrespective of the printing process~~, indicating the font data downloaded to each of the plurality of printing apparatuses ~~[[in]]~~ by said code for ~~a font registration step, wherein the font registration information is used when the font data is downloaded to any one of the printing apparatuses in said font registration step; and~~

code for an instruction step of issuing a delete instruction to any one of the plurality of printing apparatuses to delete the font data that corresponds to one of the fonts discriminated based on the font registration information referred to by said code for a reference step.